

an ROTC cadet. Upon graduation he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marines and reported to the Officers Basic School. Following successful completion of naval flight officer training, Pat was ordered to Vietnam for combat duty with the First Marine Air Wing.

Having served his country honorably, Pat departed from the U.S. Marine Corps in 1987, with the rank of lieutenant colonel. Though leaving the military, Pat remained involved in national defense. He joined the McDonnell Douglas Corporation, which eventually became the Boeing Company, as manager of business development for the AV-8 Harrier Program and later rose to become the president of Boeing's Support Systems Division, Integrated Defense Systems.

Aside from his professional career, Pat has served the State of Missouri and the Nation as a respected citizen. His love of country has shown itself in Pat's two sons, one a Marine Corps major and another with the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agency.

Pat will retire from Boeing on April 1 of this year. From his honorable service as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps to his current post with the Boeing Company, Patrick Finneran, Jr. has always worked to inspire those around him with a sense of duty and pride in their country.

I thank Pat and his family for their service to our Nation, and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.●

#### REMEMBERING RON SILVER

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, on March 18, the lights were dimmed by theatres on Broadway in tribute to a talented actor and a passionate patriot. Ron Silver's life was cut short by cancer and, as a result, America lost an individual who was not just a marvelous entertainer, but an engaged and active citizen.

I was proud and privileged to call Ron Silver my friend. Everyone who knew Ron was impressed by his intelligence, his humor, and his passion. He was not the distant celebrity, but rather he was a man of humility who possessed great talent.

Ron's acting ability was recognized in 1988 when he won a Tony Award for his performance in the play "Speed-the-Flow." He was known to millions of Americans for his roles on television in "Rhoda" and more recently as the political operative in the "West Wing."

Ron's had a deep and abiding love for America. He took the responsibilities of citizenship very seriously and he was active in the public square. Ron was one of the cofounders of the Creative Coalition that advocated for support for the arts. As Ron once said, "I'm an actor by calling but an activist by inclination."

I believe that Ron was a political liberal in the best and truest sense of the term. In the aftermath of the 9/11 attack, Ron recognized that our progres-

sive values and our national security were most threatened by the forces of radical Islamic extremism. He became an eloquent and effective advocate in winning the war on terror and defending our values and country.

Some said Ron Silver changed his political orientation. In reality, he was entirely consistent in his belief that we can never be complacent when the values we cherish are under attack whether at home or abroad.

Although Ron had political differences with some of his old friends, it rarely affected their friendships. He understood that people of good faith could have political differences and still get along. That dynamic is reflected in some of the tributes that I have included at the conclusion of my remarks. We can all learn from Ron's example.

Ron Silver was a passionate patriot who entertained us, moved us and made us think. My prayers and wishes are with his family and many friends. He was an original and will be sorely missed.●

#### HONORING ENCHANTMENT WEDDING SERVICES

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Enchantment Wedding Services, a small business in my home State of Maine that is led by an innovative and caring entrepreneur who is using her talents to lighten the burden for those struggling with breast cancer.

Enchantment Wedding Services is the brainchild of Ellie Bowie, a notary public who has been officiating wedding ceremonies for over a decade. She recently opened a shop on Main Street in Lisbon Falls, where she began selling wedding gowns, in addition to offering wedding services. Aside from its dresses, Enchantment Weddings sells tiaras, gloves, and veils, and Ms. Bowie hopes to soon carry bridesmaid dresses at her shop. Enchantment Weddings purchases both new and vintage wedding gowns from the Making Memories Foundation, a group that focuses on granting the wishes of terminal breast cancer patients, as well as providing education about the disease and resources available to these patients. The dresses are all elegant Victorian or Edwardian styles, many of which were donated to the organization by high-end bridal boutiques nationwide.

Committed to helping the Making Memories Foundation in its efforts, Ms. Bowie returns 5 percent of the price of each gown's sale to the Brides Against Breast Cancer program, an initiative of the Making Memories Foundation that raises money to help breast cancer patients and their families. She was inspired to engage in this partnership by her grandmother, a breast cancer survivor who lived to be 96, as well as a close friend's mother who is fighting the disease.

What makes Ms. Bowie's business all the more impressive is that it is, in es-

sence, her second job. Ms. Bowie works fulltime for a local trucking company, and operates Enchantment Weddings during evenings and weekends. Ms. Bowie's commitment to her business is remarkable, and her passion for making a difference in the lives of the hundreds of thousands suffering with this disease is nothing short of inspiring.

Mr. President, too many women and men will find out this year that they have breast cancer. But fortunately for them, our country has people like Ellie Bowie, who will ensure that America's greatest strengths—its benevolent nature and kindhearted spirit—never fade. I thank Ms. Bowie for her thoughtful, creative, and compassionate efforts, and wish her and her business the best of success.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:56 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 151. An act to establish the Daniel Webster Congressional Clerkship Program.

H.R. 577. An act to establish a grant program to provide vision care to children, and for other purposes.

H.R. 838. An act to provide for the conveyance of a parcel of land held by the Bureau of Prisons of the Department of Justice in Miami Dade County, Florida, to facilitate the construction of a new educational facility that includes a secure parking area for the Bureau of Prisons, and for other purposes.

H.R. 985. An act to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media.

H.R. 1029. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act and title 18, United States Code, to combat the crime of alien smuggling and related activities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1253. An act to require that limitations and restrictions on coverage under group health plans be timely disclosed to group health plan sponsors and timely communicated to participants and beneficiaries under such plans in a form that is easily understandable.

H.R. 1259. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the distribution of the drug dextromethorphan, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1299. An act to make technical corrections to the laws affecting certain administrative authorities of the United States Capitol Police, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 54. Concurrent resolution permitting the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 13101 of Public Law 111-5, and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Republican Leader appoints the following member on the part of the House of Representatives to